

Application No.: 10/609265
Amendment dated: September 26, 2005
Reply to Office action of July 26, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment presents claims 4 and 5, rewritten in independent form, each with all the limitations of claim 1, on which it depends. There were no intervening dependent claims. The language "wherein the primary flow path is divided into at least three secondary flow paths" at the beginning of the previous version of claim 5 has been deleted, and substantially the same limitation, "wherein a gas in a primary flow path is divided into at least three secondary flow paths," appears at the beginning of the amended version of claim 5. The amendments consist of cancellation of claims, and presentation of the remaining claims in suitable condition for allowance, or alternatively, in better form for appeal. The amendments do not touch the merits of the invention, and are believed to be entitled to entry under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

Although the Office Action Summary indicates that all of claims 1-5 were rejected, the body of the Office action presents only reasons for rejection of claims 1-3, and no reasons for rejection that would have applied to the limitations of claims 4 and 5.

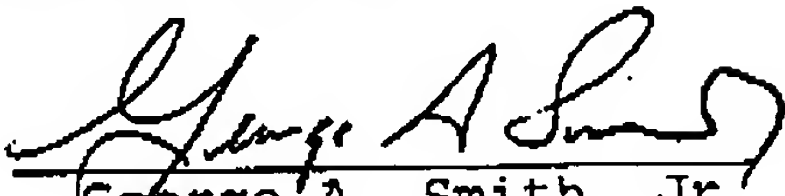
If the Examiner intended to reject claims 4 and 5, it is requested that he supply reasons for the rejection of those claims and afford the applicant an opportunity to address the rejection by setting a new period for response.

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On the other hand, if the examiner considers claims 4 and 5 to be patentable, then allowance of those claims is requested.

In either case, entry of the amendment, and reconsideration of the application, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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